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## E-Newsletter

### Welcome to Issue #13:

**Inside Transportation News** is a vehicle for sharing relevant information with transportation and planning professionals and other National Park Service partners.

### Call for FY 2007 Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands Project Proposals – Mark Hartsoe, National Park Service



The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration is soliciting proposals for FY 2007 funds under the Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands Program. As detailed in the recent [Federal Register notice](#), the project proposals must be received by the designated agency contact by no later than February 16, 2007. For inquiries specific to the National Park Service, please e-mail [mark\\_h\\_hartsoe@nps.gov](mailto:mark_h_hartsoe@nps.gov).

### Upcoming Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting – Jim Evans, National Park Service



The TRB 86th Annual Meeting will be held on January 21-25, 2007 in Washington, DC. The agenda includes many sessions of interest, including: Session 405 [Topics in Transportation on Public Lands](#) on Monday, January 22 from 7:30-9:30pm; Session 711 [Federal Land Agencies and the Statewide and Metropolitan Transportation Planning Processes](#) on Wednesday, January 24 from 2:30-4:00pm; and Session 743 [Transportation-Related Environmental Issues in Parks and Public Lands](#) on Wednesday, January 24 from 4:30-6:00pm. Also, the [Planning Mega Session](#) on Monday, January 22 includes four poster presentations by National Park transportation scholars Daniel J. Carl, Dick Schaffer, Jonathan Upchurch and Lisa Ballard.

### Update on National Scenic Byways – Jennifer Getz, National Park Service



The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is now accepting grant applications for FY 2007 funding under the National Scenic Byways Program. [Grant applications](#) are due to FHWA division offices by no later than March 19, 2007, but many States have submission deadlines prior to that date. Please note that all grant applications must go to the State Scenic Byways Coordinators who then forward their prioritized lists of projects to the FHWA. Parks should work with their State coordinator to meet the submission deadline. There will be \$30 million in project funds available for FY 2007.

In FY 2006, the Acting Secretary of Transportation Maria Cino approved 309 projects in 45 states to receive a total of \$25.6 million in discretionary National Scenic Byways Program grants. The National Park Service (NPS) had a number of projects selected. For example, in the Midwest Region there were 15 Byways projects with a NPS connection, including:

- Update Corridor Management Plan & Asset Inventory-Flint Hills-Year 1, which includes the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve (\$20,000)

- Leelanau Scenic Heritage Route Wayfinding Signs Project, which includes part of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore (\$125,200)
- Peter Norbeck Scenic Byway - Waysides within Mount Rushmore National Monument (\$22,960)

For questions regarding the NPS National Scenic Byways Program, please contact Jennifer Getz via e-mail to [jennifer\\_getz@nps.gov](mailto:jennifer_getz@nps.gov) or call 202/513-7030.

### New "How-to" Resource on Trail Projects Available Soon – Hugh Duffy, National Park Service, Denver Service Center

The *Sustainable Mountain Trails Sketchbook* is a draft training curriculum produced for the Colorado Outdoor Training Initiative. This reference was developed to encourage excellence in the assessment, planning, design, implementation and communication of sustainable mountain trail projects. The *Sketchbook* features examples of successful tools and techniques collected by the primary author, Hugh Duffy, with contributions from Danny Basch, Eastside trails foreman at Rocky Mountain National Park, and John Giordanengo and Greg Seabloom of the Colorado Fourteener's Initiative. The *Sketchbook* provides menus of implementation options to choose from, including mountain trail bridges developed at Rocky Mountain that are showcased below:



**Simple Foot Log Bridge (at left).** This bridge is designed for light to medium foot traffic only across small and/or intermittent water courses. Minimal dimensions, tools, time and labor skill required. Appropriate in frontcountry through backcountry distance zones. No vertical drop of more than 5 feet allowable anywhere along the span.

**Foot Traffic Only Bridge (at right).** This bridge is designed for frontcountry to backcountry distance zones with medium to heavy volumes of use. May be multiple-member foot log or decked stringer type. This bridge requires additional skills and tools for harvesting, moving and assembling native materials for larger structures.



**Multiple Use Bridge with Handrail (at left).** This bridge can accommodate medium to heavy volume of use in frontcountry to backcountry distance zones. This structure is a decked multiple stringer design with steel super-structure preferred. This design may include a mix of native and imported materials for optimum strength, life-cycle and aesthetic values. It requires complex logistics, skills, tools and material handling techniques.

The *Sustainable Mountain Trails Sketchbook* was recently presented at the National Trails Symposium, and has been recognized by the Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects with two professional design awards. Copies of the 2007 edition of this draft publication will be available about February 1st. For further information, please e-mail [hugh\\_duffy@nps.gov](mailto:hugh_duffy@nps.gov) or call him at 303/969-2452.

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